Clerk, U.S. District & Bankruptcy Courts for the District of Columbia

Description: 3-Judge Court

Assign Date

12/8/2011

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Abdul Karim Hassan. Civ. Action #: 215-28 HILSIDE AVE. QUEENS VILLAGE, N.Y. Plaintiff. **COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF** Federal Election Commission, Defendant.

Plaintiff, Abdul Karim Hassan, pro se, ("Plaintiff" or "Hassan"), complaining of Defendant, respectfully alleges as follows:

NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. Plaintiff, a naturalized American citizen and a candidate for the Presidency of the United States seeks a judgment: 1) declaring that the Presidential Election Campaign Fund Act ("PECFA") at 26 USC § 9001 -9013 is in whole or in part invalid under the Equal Protection guarantee of the Fifth Amendment and the Citizenship Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution because of its "natural born" requirement; and 2) declaring that the "natural born" provision of the Constitution and the invidious national origin discrimination contained therein, is irreconcilable with and has been trumped, abrogated and implicitly repealed by the Equal Protection guarantee of the Fifth Amendment, as well as the Citizenship Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment; 3) awarding Plaintiff costs and attorney's fees; and 4) granting Plaintiff such other, further and different relief as the Court deems just and proper.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

2. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 because this case involves questions of federal law. This Court also has jurisdiction under 26 USC § 9011(b) and 28 U.S.C. § 2284.

3. Venue is proper in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia pursuant to 26 USC § 9011(b) and 28 U.S.C. § 1391(e) and (b).

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4. This Court is empowered to grant declaratory and injunctive relief pursuant to 26 USC § 9011(b) and 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201 and 2202.

THE PARTIES

- 5. Plaintiff Abdul Karim Hassan ("Plaintiff" or "Hassan") is an adult individual over the age of eighteen years currently residing in Queens County in the State of New York.
- 6. Plaintiff Hassan is a 2012 candidate for the Presidency of the United States.
- 7. Defendant Federal Election Commission ("Defendant" or "FEC"), is the agency of the United States responsible for implementing and administering the Presidential Election Campaign Fund Act ("PECFA").

STATEMENT OF FACTS

- 8. Petitioner Abdul Karim Hassan was born in 1974 in the country of Guyana. See also http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Cd18lsx1ls.
- 9. Petitioner's race is East Indian.
- 10. Petitioner is a naturalized American citizen who was naturalized within the United States and took the oath of citizenship at a United States District Court in New York City.
- 11. Plaintiff is eligible to vote for President of the United States.

- 12. Petitioner satisfies all of the constitutional requirements for holding the Office of President of the United States except the requirement of natural born status. See U.S. Constitution, Article II, Section 1, Clause 5 ("Natural Born Clause").
- 13. In March 2008, petitioner announced his candidacy for the Presidency of the United States through his presidential website at www.abdulhassanforpresident.com.
- 14. Petitioner is currently focused on the 2012 presidential elections but if he is not successful in 2012, petitioner intends to continue his current campaign without interruption until the next presidential elections in 2016.
- 15. Since the announcement of his candidacy in March 2008, petitioner has used and will continue to use without interruption, his presidential website in much the same way as the leading presidential candidates to promote and communicate his candidacy, issue positions and campaign to voters and the public.
- 16. Plaintiff has also been communicating this message to the American public through Youtube.com.
- 17. In order to compliment and improve the use of the website, petitioner has purchased and paid for a national presidential advertising campaign through Google. This advertisement has been running and will continue to run and it links to petitioner's presidential website.

- 18. In addition, petitioner has done interviews with and has been covered by both print and broadcast media.
- 19. Petitioner's presidential candidacy and campaign have also been covered widely on the internet as a quick online search will reveal.
- 20. This growth in petitioner's presidential campaign and candidacy has resulted in thousands of hits each month to petitioner's presidential website from all across the country and the growth continues.
- 21. Petitioner will continue to build on this initial success and continue to promote his candidacy and ideas to more and more voters across the country.
- 22. Since announcing his presidential candidacy in March 2008, petitioner has paid annual registration fees for his presidential website domain names, and in addition, petitioner has paid monthly fees to host and operate his presidential website. Petition has also been paying monthly fees for a nationwide advertising campaign that links to petitioner's presidential website. Petitioner has also expended time and effort in developing the site's infrastructure and content.
- 23. On September 2, 2011, the Federal Election Commission ruled that plaintiff as a naturalized American citizen running for President of the United States is covered by

the Federal Election Campaign Act ("FECA") and related laws and that plaintiff is required to comply with the record-keeping, expenditure and other requirements of the federal election laws and plaintiff has been and will continue to spend money, time and effort to comply with these requirements. (See FEC ruling at http://www.abdulhassanforpresident.com/fec/ruling.pdf).

24. In its September 2, 2011 ruling, the FEC also ruled on the Presidential Primary Matching Payment Account Act ("MPA") as follows (See page 4 at http://www.abdulhassanforpresident.com/fec):

Because Mr. Hassan has clearly stated that he is a naturalized citizen of the United States, and not a natural born citizen under the constitutional requirement in Article II, Section 1, Clause 5, the Commission concludes that Mr. Hassan is not eligible to receive matching funds.

These provisions collectively reflect Congressional intent to ensure that U.S. Treasury funds in the form of matching funds are only paid to eligible candidates

25. Although the FEC in its September 2, 2011 ruling did not address the Presidential Election Campaign Fund Act which is at issue herein, the FEC's logic and reasoning which led to its conclusion that the MPA prohibits naturalized citizens like Plaintiff from receiving primary matching funds also leads to the conclusion that PECFA prohibits naturalized citizens like Plaintiff from receiving funds otherwise provided by PECFA.

- 26. Because PECFA denies funds to Plaintiff, Plaintiff's chances of becoming the nominee of a major political party is destroyed and the same can be said of Plaintiff's chances of winning the Presidency given that only candidates of the major political parties have won the Presidency throughout the history of the Country.
- 27. PECFA's discrimination against Plaintiff because of his national origin also stigmatizes him and hurts his presidential campaign as a result. Here, the PECFA and is discrimination against naturalized citizens endorses the legally "impermissible" rationale behind the natural born provision that naturalized citizens cannot be trusted. Such stigmatization is especially harmful in the context of a presidential campaign where trust is critical to winning voter support and elections.

AS AND FOR A FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION U. S. Constitution, 14th and 5th Amendments & Article II, Section 1, Clause 5

- 28. Plaintiff incorporates the allegations in paragraphs 1 through 27 above as if set forth fully and at length herein.
- 29. The Citizenship Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, Section 1, states in relevant part that:

All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the state wherein they reside.

30. The Fifth Amendment reads in relevant part as follows:

No person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law ...

While not appearing in the text of the Fifth Amendment, the U.S. Supreme Court has held that:

[t]his Court's approach to Fifth Amendment equal protection claims has always been precisely the same as to equal protection claims under the Fourteenth Amendment. <u>Adarand Constructors, Inc. v. Pena.</u> 515 U.S. 200, 217 (1995).

- 31. Given that the Presidential Election Campaign Fund Act discriminates against Plaintiff because of his status as a naturalized citizen his national origin, the statute violates Plaintiff's rights under the Equal Protection guarantee of the Fifth Amendment and the Citizenship Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. See <u>United States v. Virginia</u>, 518 U.S. 515, 532 n. 6 (1996) (noting that "[t]he Court has thus far reserved most stringent judicial scrutiny for classifications based on race or national origin"). See also <u>Afroyim v. Rusk</u>, 387 U.S. 253, 262 (1967) (stating without exception as to presidential eligibility that, "(The naturalized citizen) becomes a member of the society, possessing all the rights of a native citizen, and standing, in view of the constitution, on the footing of a native."
- 32. The natural born provision of the Constitution, including the invidious national origin discrimination contained therein, is irreconcilable with and is trumped, abrogated and implicitly repealed by the Equal Protection guarantee of the Fifth Amendment as well as the Citizenship Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment all of which prohibit such national origin discrimination. See McDonald v. City of Chicago, Ill. 130 S.Ct. 3020, 3060 (2010), ("[invidious discrimination is] irreconcilable with the principles of equality, government by consent, and inalienable rights proclaimed by the Declaration

of Independence and embedded in our constitutional structure."). See also <u>Adarand v.</u>

<u>Pena</u>, 515 U.S. 200, 213 (1995), reiterating that, "[d]istinctions between citizens solely because of their ancestry are by their very nature odious to a free people whose institutions are founded upon the doctrine of equality."

- 33. The U.S. Supreme Court has also described its decision in <u>Dred Scott v. Sandford</u>, 60 U.S. 393 (1857), to choose constitutional discrimination over constitutional equality as a great "self-inflicted wound"." <u>South Carolina v. Regan</u>, 465 U.S. 367, 412 (1984).
- 34. Upholding the invidious discrimination in the Natural Born Clause in light of the equal protection guarantees of the Fourteenth and Fifth Amendments, will be another great "self-inflicted wound²." Plaintiff is therefore entitled to the declaratory and injunctive relief requested herein.
- 35. See also http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pXiTsYGWZjM.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court grant the following relief:

36. Declare that the Presidential Election Campaign Fund Act ("PECFA") at 26 USC § 9001 - 9013, is in whole or in part invalid under the Equal Protection Guarantee of the Fifth Amendment as well as the Citizenship Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment of the United

² See http://www.supremecourt.gov/publicinfo/speeches/sp_03-21-03.html - In reference to the Dredd Scott decision, then Chief Justice Rehnquist said in a 2003 speech that 'It was rightly referred to by a later Chief Justice as a "self-inflicted wound" from which it took the Court at least a generation to recover.

States Constitution because of its "natural born" requirement;

37. Declare that the natural born provision of the Constitution is irreconcilable with and has

been trumped, abrogated and implicitly repealed by the Equal Protection guarantee of the

Fifth and the Citizenship Clause of the Fourteenth Amendments;

38. Award Plaintiff costs and attorney's fees; and

39. Grant Plaintiff such other, further and different relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Dated: Queens, New York

December 5, 2011

Respectfully submitted,

Abdul K. Hassan, Esq.

Plaintiff, Pro Se

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Case 1:11-cv-02189-EG&IVD0c0004/HERI-SHEEPted 12/08/11 Page 1 of 2 JS-44 (Rev. 2/11 DC) I (a) PLAINTIFFS DEFENDANTS Abdul Karim Hassan **Federal Election Commission** 88888 COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST LISTED DEFENDANT Queens, NY (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) (b) COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST LISTED PLAINTIFF NOTE IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES) LAND INVOLVED (c) ATTORNEYS (FIRM NAME, ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER) Abdul K. Hassan, Esq. Case: 1:11-cv-02189 215-28 Hillside Avenue Assigned To: Sullivan, Emmet G Queens Village, NY 11427 Assign. Date: 12/8/2011 Tel: 718-740-1000 Description: 3-Judge Court III CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (PLACE AN x IN ONE BOX II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION FOR PLAINTIFF AND ONE BOX FOR DEFENDANT) FOR DIVERSITY CASES ONLY! (PLACE AN x IN ONE BOX ONLY) PTF DFT PTF DFT I U S Government 3 Federal Question Plaintiff (U S Government Not a Party) $O \perp O \perp$ Citizen of this State Incorporated or Principal Place of Business in This State 2 U S Government () 4 Diversity Citizen of Another State $O_2 O_2$ Incorporated and Principal Place () 5 Defendant (Indicate Citizenship of of Business in Another State Parties in item [1]) $O_3 O_3$ Citizen or Subject of a O 6 O_{6} Foreign Country Foreign Nation IV. CASE ASSIGNMENT AND NATURE OF SUIT (Place a X in one category, A-N, that best represents your cause of action and one in a corresponding Nature of Suit) O D. Temporary Restraining O A. Antitrust O B. Personal Injury/ O C. Administrative Agency Malpractice Review Order/Preliminary Injunction 151 Medicare Act Any nature of suit from any category may 410 Antitrust 310 Airplane Social Security: be selected for this category of case 315 Airplane Product Liability 861 HIA ((1395ff) assignment. 320 Assault, Libel & Slander 862 Black Lung (923) 330 Federal Employers Liability 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g) *(If Antitrust, then A governs)* 340 Marine 864 SSID Title XVI 345 Marine Product Liability 865 RSI (405(g) 350 Motor Vehicle Other Statutes 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability RECEIVED Mail Room 891 Agricultural Acts 360 Other Personal Injury 892 Economic Stabilization Act 362 Medical Malpractice 893 Environmental Matters 365 Product Liability 894 Energy Allocation Act 368 Asbestos Product Liability 890 Other Statutory Actions (If Administrative Agency is Involved) Angela l Columbia F. Pro Se General Civil OR E. General Civil (Other) Forfeiture/Penalty **Real Property** Bankruptcy 462 Naturalization Application **422 Appeal 28 USC 158** 7610 Agriculture 210 Land Condemnation 620 Other Food & Drug 465 Other Immigration Actions 220 Foreclosure 3 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157] 470 Racketeer Influenced & 625 Drug Related Seizure 230 Rent, Lease & Ejectment of Property 21 USC 881 **Corrupt Organizations Prisoner Petitions** 240 Torts to Land 480 Consumer Credit 30 Liquor Laws 245 Tort Product Liability 3535 Death Penalty 490 Cable/Satellite TV **∃540 Mandamus & Other** 640 RR & Truck 290 All Other Real Property 810 Selective Service 650 Airline Regs 550 Civil Rights 850 Securities/Commodities/ 1555 Prison Condition 660 Occupational **Personal Property** Safety/Health Exchange 370 Other Fraud 375 Customer Challenge 12 USC 690 Other **Property Rights** 371 Fruth in Lending 3410 380 Other Personal Property Damage 820 Copyrights 900 Appeal of fee determination 385 Property Damage Product Liability 830 Patent under equal access to Justice Other Statutes 7840 Trademark **50** Constitutionality of State 400 State Reapportionment 430 Banks & Banking Statutes Federal Tax Suits L890 Other Statutory Actions (if ☐ 870 Taxes (US plaintiff or 450 Commerce/ICC not administrative agency Rates/etc. defendant review or Privacy Act 371 IRS-Third Party 26 ____ 460 Deportation USC 7609

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Case 1:11	-cv-02189-EGS Docume	nt 1-1 Filed 12/08/11 Pa	g e 2 of 2
G. Habeas Corpus/	O H. Employment	O I. FOIA/PRIVACY	O J. Student Loan
2255	Discrimination	ACT	152 Pagesyary of Defaulted
530 Habeas Corpus-General 510 Motion/Vacate Sentence 463 Habeas Corpus - Alien Detainee	442 Civil Rights-Employment (criteria: race, gender/sex, national origin, discrimination, disability age, religion, retaliation)	895 Freedom of Information Act 890 Other Statutory Actions (if Privacy Act)	152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (excluding veterans)
	(If pro se, select this deck)	*(If pro se, select this deck)*	
O K. Labor/ERISA	O L. Other Civil Right	S O M. Contract	Three-Judge Court
(non-employment) 710 Fair Labor Standards Act 720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations 730 Labor/Mgmt. Reporting & Disclosure Act 740 Labor Railway Act 790 Other Labor Litigation 791 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act	(non-employment) 441 Voting (if not Voting Righ Act) 443 Housing/Accommodations 444 Welfare 440 Other Civil Rights 445 American w/Disabilities- Employment 446 Americans w/Disabilities- Other	140 Negotiable Instrument	of
V. ORIGIN () 1 Original Proceeding from State Court Proceeding Court O 3 Remanded from O 4 Reinstated or Reopened another district (specify) O 5 Transferred from O 6 Multi district O 7 Appeal to District Judge from Mag. Judge VI. CAUSE OF ACTION (CITE THE U.S. CIVIL STATUTE UNDER WHICH YOU ARE FILING AND WRITE A BRIEF STATEMENT OF CAUSE.)			
26 USC 9011 - declaration that Presidential Election Campaign Fund Act is unconstitutional because of national origin discrimination			
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT	CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER FR C P 23	DEMAND \$ { JURY DEMAND:	Check YES only if demanded in comple
VIII. RELATED CASE(S) (See instruction) IF ANY VES NO If yes, please complete related case form			
DATE RES 2811 SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD Miles Hayan - Pro 30			
INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET JS-44 Authority for Civil Cover Sheet			
The JS-44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. Consequently a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. Listed below are tips for completing the civil cover sheet. These tips coincide with the Roman Numerals on the Cover Sheet.			

- 1. COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST LISTED PLAINTIFF/DEFENDANT (b) County of residence Use 11001 to indicate plaintiff is resident of Washington, D.C., 88888 if plaintiff is resident of the United States but not of Washington, D.C., and 99999 if plaintiff is outside the United States
- III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES This section is completed only if diversity of citizenship was selected as the Basis of Jurisdiction under Section
- IV. CASE ASSIGNMENT AND NATURE OF SUIT The assignment of a judge to your case will depend on the category you select that best represents the primary cause of action found in your complaint. You may select only one category. You must also select one corresponding nature of suit found under the category of case.
- VI. CAUSE OF ACTION Cite the US Civil Statute under which you are filing and write a brief statement of the primary cause
- VIII. RELATED CASES, IF ANY If you indicated that there is a related case, you must complete a related case form, which may be obtained from the Clerk's Office

Because of the need for accurate and complete information, you should ensure the accuracy of the information provided prior to signing the form